

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6, 9-10, and 12-21 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's **claim 1** is drawn toward an information recording/reproduction apparatus for performing a preprogrammed recording (i) of information distributed at a predetermined time from a predetermined distribution source (ii) to an information recording medium, and (iii) based on information indicating preprogrammed recording settings determined before the predetermined time of distribution, the information recording/reproduction apparatus comprising: preprogrammed recording reception means for receiving, as the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings, a date of distribution, a time of distribution, an identification of a distribution source of the distributed information, and an identification of the information recording medium for performing the preprogrammed recording of the distributed information; recording control means for causing the distributed information to be recorded on the identified information recording medium, the distributed information being recorded based on the received information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings; and displaying control means for incorporating the received information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings into a two-dimensional matrix defined by the date of distribution, the time of distribution, and a plurality of different information recording mediums capable of having multiple video recordings simultaneously recorded thereto,

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the plurality of information recording mediums including the identified information recording medium, and the two-dimensional matrix having a plurality of divided areas, each divided area of the plurality of divided areas having a respective date of distribution assigned thereto, such that each divided area of the plurality of divided areas represents the respective date of distribution assigned thereto and for displaying on a displaying unit a display screen indicating the two-dimensional matrix having incorporated therein the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings, wherein, when a plurality of pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings are incorporated into the two-dimensional matrix, the plurality of pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings are respectively incorporated into the plurality of divided areas of the two-dimensional matrix based on the respective date of distribution represented by each respective divided area of the plurality of divided areas and indicated by a respective piece of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings.

Applicant's independent **claim 1** comprises a particular combination that is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. The closest prior art of record, Gunji et al (US Patent 7,212,725), fails to teach or fairly suggest the two-dimensional matrix defined by the date of distribution, the time of distribution, and a plurality of different information recording mediums capable of having multiple video recordings simultaneously thereto, the plurality of information recording mediums including the identified information recording medium. Although Gunji discloses multiple recording destinations including DVD and HDD, wherein the recording, reproducing processes for

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the hard disk, optical disk are performed in a time sharing fashion (see e.g. column 8, lines 23-34 and figure 2), the apparatus of Gunji does not disclose that these apparatuses are capable of *having multiple video recordings simultaneously recorded thereto*.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARC DAZENSKI whose telephone number is (571)270-5577. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha Banks-Harold can be reached on (571)272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Marsha D. Banks-Harold/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/MARC DAZENSKI/
Examiner, Art Unit 2621